

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 45 as follows:

45. (Twice Amended) The polynucleotide of Claim 9, which:
- a) comprises a sequence encoding a mature polypeptide coding portion of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3, that does not encode an N terminal leader sequence; or
 - b) comprises a sequence encoding an intracellular domain of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4.

*Approved
Don Harg
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Remarks

Applicants respectfully request entry of the minor claim amendments in view of the following remarks.

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I. Status of The Application

Claims 9, 11, 12, 17-20, 23-26, 28-37, 40-46, and 49-56 were allowed in the Office Action of 01-OCT-99 (Paper No. 19).

II. The Invention

The present invention is based, in part, upon the discovery of a family of polypeptides that appear to act as a costimulator of T cell activation. In particular, the invention provides mammalian, e.g., rodent and primate, polynucleotide sequences that are expressed in the thymus, and are induced on T cells and spleen cells following activation.

III. The Amendments

Upon examination of allowable claims before paying the issue fee, Applicants noted an inadvertant omission of the term "or" between part (a) and part (b) of Claim 45. Inclusion of the term "or" is apparent from the context of the claim and, therefore, Applicants respectfully request entry of the present amendment to correct the error.